



CONGRESS OF CALIFORNIA SENIORS

1230 "N" STREET, SUITE 201, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 • (916) 442-4474 • (800) 543-3352 • FAX (916) 442-1877 • www.seniors.org

October 12, 2009

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Broadband Industry Practices (WC Docket No. 07-52)

Dear Commissioners:

The Congress of California Seniors (CCS), founded in 1977, is a nonprofit advocacy organization and an umbrella for more than a hundred affiliated groups representing an aggregate number of over 500,000 members. Our broad-based coalition includes trade union retirees, retired federal/state public employee organizations, senior centers, tenant and homeowner associations, and other advocacy groups.

We understand and support the FCC's interest in making sure the Internet remains open and accessible. The Internet is an increasingly essential tool for helping seniors' access health care services, lead independent lives and stay connected with their families. In fact, just last year we saw rapid growth in seniors' broadband use. Seniors' home broadband adoption continues to grow at a rapid clip – a 58% increase between 2008 and 2009. Let's keep that trend going in the right direction.

High speed broadband access to the Internet is now delivering real gains for seniors. If new Net Neutrality rules proposed by the FCC slow down investments in network infrastructure or increase the price of broadband, we could see the progress we've made erased.

We need to stay the course. On behalf of the Congress of California seniors, we urge the FCC to exercise great care and only proceed after weighing all consequences associated with the impact new regulations would have on something that is currently working so well for so many, especially seniors.

Sincerely,

Henry L. "Hank" Lacayo

The Congress of California Seniors is a broad-based coalition of senior centers and residential facilities, women's clubs, tenant and homeowner associations, faith-based organizations, community service groups, trade union retirees, retired federal/state/local government and public school employee organizations, and other advocacy groups.

